

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN PR OCON ELTN EC

SUBJ: INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

REF: A) STATE 111286 B) STATE 164858

1. POLOFF CALLED ON AUGUSTO PEREZ ANDA, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY JULY 6, TO DISCUSS AN UNRELATED MATTER WHEN PEREZ BROUGHT UP THE PARTICIPATION OF PUERTO RICO IN THE UPCOMING INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL BE HELD IN QUITO NEXT SEPTEMBER.

2. ACCORDING TO PEREZ, THE UPCOMING MEETING IS THE THIRD OF A SERIES. HE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT PUERTO RICO PARTICIPATED IN THE EARLIER TWO MEETINGS HELD IN 1972 AND 1973 IN MEXICO. THE GOE HAS ISSUED INVITATIONS FOR THE QUITO MEETING BUT DID NOT INVITE PUERTO RICO. HOWEVER, PEREZ WOULD LIKE TO INVITE PUERTO RICO IF IN FACT IT DID PARTICIPATE IN THE EARLIER MEETINGS. PEREZ ASKED POLOFF TO QUERY THE DEPARTMENT AS TO THE PARTICIPATION OF PUERTO RICO IN THE EARLIER SESSIONS AND AS TO THE NATURE OF THE STATUS OF THE PUERTO RICAN DELEGATION. PEM Q SAID THAT HE WAS WELL AWARE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES AND SAID THAT ECUADOR HAD NO INTENTION OF CONTRADICTING US POLICY IN INVITING PUERTO RICO TO THE CONFERENCE. HE DISPLAYED A USIS PUBLICATION EXPLAING THE STUTUS OF PUERTO RICO AND SAID THAT THE GOE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO WISH
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TO CHALLENGE OUR POSITION.

3. POLOFF TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED BY PEREZ TO DRAW UPON THE POINTS PROVIDED IN REFTEL (A). PEREZ SAID THAT THE GOE UNDERSTOOD THE US POSITION AND WOULD SUPPORT NO MOVES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CLAIMING THE INDEPENDENCE OF PUERTO RICO OR ACCUSING THE US OF COLONIALISM ON THE QUESTION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INFORM MISSION IF PUERTO RICO DID IN FACT ATTEND MEXICO MEETINGS ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND IF SO, WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF THE DELEGATION? IN WHAT FORM COULD THE GOE INVITE PUERTO RICO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SESSION TO BE HELD IN QUITO IN SEPTEMBER?

BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

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